DFW

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Name of Person Signing Certificate: Deborah C. Cowger

DECEMBER 16, 2005 Deborah C. Cowger
Date Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant: DON M. HANNEGAN	§	Conf. No.:	8979
Filed: September 19, 2003	§	Art Unit:	3672
Serial No.: 10/666,088	§	Examiner:	William P. Neuder
For: METHOD FOR PRESSURIZED MUD CAP AND REVERSE CIRCULATION DRILLING FROM A FLOATING DRILLING RIG USING A SEALED MARINE RISER	§	Docket No.:	H055010.0048US0
	§	Customer No.:	1200

RESPONSE TO NOTICE REQUIRING EXCESS CLAIMS FEES

Responsive to the Notice Requiring Excess Claims Fees mailed November 17, 2005, Applicants respectfully submit that all such fees were paid by check.

In the Notice Requiring Excess Fees mailed November 17, 2005, Technical Support Staff member Sandra F. Garnett refers to "The excess claim(s) filed on 11-14-05. . . ." Applicants originally filed a Response and Amendment under a Certificate of Transmission dated November 10, 2005 (Response and Amendment I). After Applicants noted that Response and Amendment I was filed unsigned, Applicants timely filed on November 11, 2005, a "Signed Duplicate Response and Amendment Filed Pursuant to MPEP § 714.01(a) In View of Unsigned Response and Amendment Filed November 10, 2005" (Response and Amendment II). Both Response and Amendment I and Response and Amendment II appear in the Image File Wrapper and are dated November 14, 2005.

As evidenced by the enclosed return post card (Exhibit A), the receipt of which was acknowledged by the Office on November 14, 2005, a check in the amount of $2,130 was included with the Response and Amendment I as filed on November 10, 2005. Because the post card properly identifies the check and the entry for the check is not crossed off and initialed by the Office, the post card serves as prima facie evidence of the receipt of this check. (MPEP § 503.) We also enclose a copy of documentation from the bank of Applicants' attorneys (Exhibit B) showing that this check was deposited by the Office and has successfully cleared the bank.

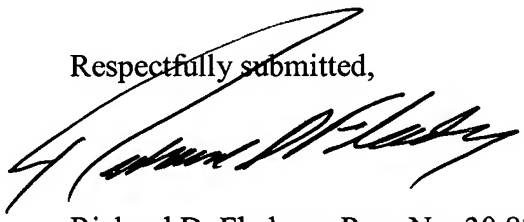
The enclosed Fee Transmittal Sheet (Exhibit C) is a true and correct copy of the Fee Transmittal submitted with the Response and Amendment I that was obtained from the PTO Private PAIR system and bears the Office's stamp acknowledging receipt of the Sheet on November 14, 2005. The Sheet shows that the check for $2,130 provided payment of $1,950 for excess claims fees and a payment for $180 for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement. In addition to the indication that a check was enclosed with the Sheet, the Sheet indicates that any additional fees required should be charged to Deposit Account 16-2435.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all excess claims fees have been properly paid and no further remittance is due by Applicants. Applicants respectfully request entry of the Response and Amendment II and withdrawal of the Notice Requiring Excess Claims Fees.

To the extent the Patent Office does not agree that the excess claim fees have been properly paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge any additional fees required to our Deposit Account No. 16-2435.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard D. Fladung, Reg. No. 30,834

Date: December 16, 2005

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP
1111 Louisiana Street, 44th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002-5200
Telephone: (713) 220-5800
Facsimile: (713) 236-0822

The stamp of the **PATENT OFFICE**, placed hereon, acknowledges receipt of:

Serial No.:	10/666,088
Applicant:	Don M. Hannegan
Atty. Docket #:	055010.0048US
Title:	Method for Pressurized Mud Cap and Reverse Circulation Drilling From a Floating Drilling Rig Using a Sealed Marine Riser
Attorney:	Richard D. Fladung

Inclusions:

--Response and Amendment to 8/23/05 Office Action;
--Supplemental IDS;
--PTO Form 1449 with 23 References;
--Fee Transmittal Sheet (in duplicate);
--Check in the amount of $2,130.00;
--Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8(a)
--Return Receipt Acknowledgment Postcard

Date Due: November 23, 2005
Date Mailed: November 10, 2005

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL POSTAGE PREPAID

The stamp of the **PATENT OFFICE**, placed hereon, acknowledges receipt of:

Display Both Check Image

[redacted]

" Privacy" Citibank.com

citigroup

Citibank Check Image Delivery

Print Close Window

Check Image Inquiry Results

Account #	Check #	Amount	Paid Date
00000038641612	161722	$2,130.00	11/21/2005

DOCUMENT HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND. SECURITY FEATURES LISTED ON BACK.

AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD, L.L.P.
DISBURSEMENT ACCOUNT
A REGISTERED LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP
INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS
1333 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20036
(877) 395-2546

Citibank, Delaware
One Penns Way New Castle DE 19720

Check No. 161722

62-20/311

DATE 11/10/2005
AMOUNT OF CHECK
$ ******2,130.00

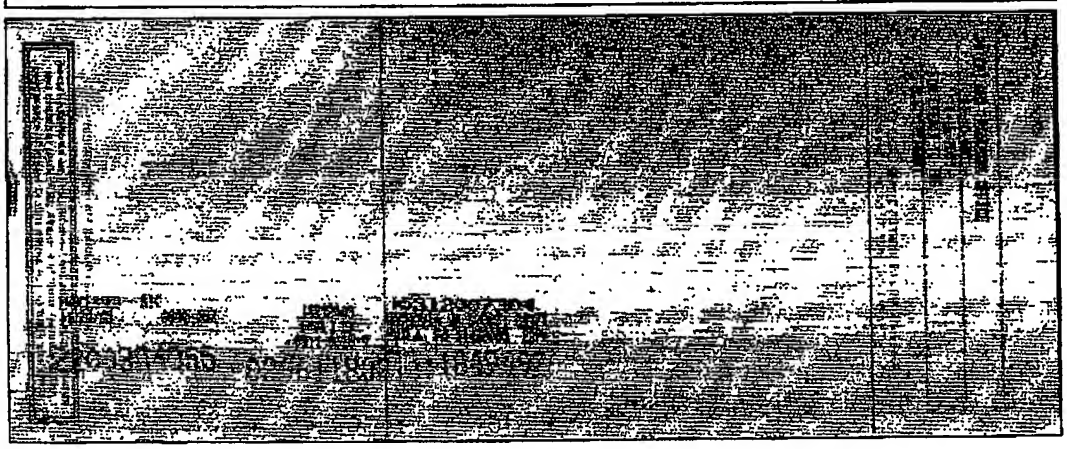
PAY TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS

VOID AFTER 6 MONTHS

TO THE ORDER OF
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
USPTO
P O BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

⑈161722⑈ ⑆031100209⑆ 3864161 2⑈ ⑈0000213000⑈



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PTO/SB/17 (12-04)

OIPE
NOV 14 2005
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2005

Patent fees are subject to annual revision

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/666,088
Filing Date	09/19/2003
First Named Inventor	Don M. Hannegan
Examiner Name	William P. Neuder
Group / Art Unit	3672
Attorney Docket No.	H055010.0048US0

Total Amount of Payment	$ 2130

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. ___ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:
   Deposit Account No.: 16-2435
   Deposit Account Name: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP
   X Charge any additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 & 1.17
   ___ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27
2. X Payment Enclosed: X Check ___ Money Order ___ Credit Card ___ Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. Basic Filing, Search and Examination Fees

Large Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1011	$300	2011	$150	Utility Filing Fee	$
1012	$200	2012	$100	Design Filing Fee	$
1013	$200	2013	$100	Plant Filing Fee	$
1014	$300	2014	$150	Reissue Filing Fee	$
1005	$200	2005	$100	Provisional Filing Fee	$
1111	$500	2111	$250	Utility Search Fee	$
1112	$100	2112	$ 50	Design Search Fee	$
1113	$300	2113	$150	Plant Search Fee	$
1114	$500	2114	$250	Reissue Search Fee	$
1311	$200	2311	$100	Utility Examination Fee	$
1312	$130	2312	$ 65	Design Examination Fee	$
1313	$160	2313	$ 80	Plant Examination Fee	$
1314	$600	2314	$300	Reissue Exam. Fee	$
				Subtotal (1)	$ 0

2. Extra Claim Fees

Claims		Extra		Fee (below)		Fee Paid
Total	47 -20** =	27	x	$ 50	=	$ 1350
Indep.	9 - 6** =	3	x	$ 200	=	$ 600
Multiple Dependent						$

**or number previously paid, if greater.

For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description
$ 50	$ 25	Claims in excess of 20
$ 200	$ 100	Independent claims in excess of 3
$ 360	$ 180	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
$ 200	$ 100	**Reissue independent claims over original patent
$ 50	$ 25	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
		Subtotal (2) $ 1950

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. Application Size Fee

Sheets		Extra		Fee (below)		Fee Paid
Total	(-100)/50 =		x	$	=	$

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description
$ $250	$ 125	Application Size Fee
	Subtotal (3)	$ 0

4. Additional Fees

Large Fee Code	Large Entity	Small Fee Code	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	$ 130	2051	$ 65	Surcharge - late fee or oath	$
1052	$ 50	2052	$ 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	$
1812	$2,520	1812	$2,520	Request for Reexamination	$
1251	$ 120	2251	$ 60	Extension for reply within first month	$
1252	$ 450	2252	$ 225	Extension for reply within second month	$
1253	$1,020	2253	$ 510	Extension for reply within third month	$
1254	$1,590	2254	$ 795	Extension for reply within fourth month	$
1255	$2,160	2255	$1,080	Extension for reply within fifth month	$
1401	$ 500	2401	$ 250	Notice of Appeal	$
1402	$ 500	2402	$ 250	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	$
1452	$ 500	2452	$ 250	Petition to revive - unavoidable	$
1453	$1,500	2453	$ 750	Petition to revive - unintentional	$
1501	$1,400	2501	$ 700	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	$
1502	$ 800	2502	$ 400	Design issue fee	$
1503	$1,100	2503	$ 550	Plant issue fee	$
1464	$ 130	1464	$ 130	Petition to Director Under 1.17(h)	$
1807	$ 50	1807	$ 50	Processing fee for provisional applications	$
1806	$ 180	1806	$ 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Statement	$ 180
8021	$ 40	8021	$ 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	$
1809	$ 790	2809	$ 395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	$
1801	$ 790	2801	$ 395	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	$
1802	$ 900	1802	$ 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	$
Other fee (specify):					$
Other fee (specify):					$
				Subtotal (4)	$ 180

Date: November 10, 2005

Submitted by: Richard D. Fladung, Reg. No. 30,834

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